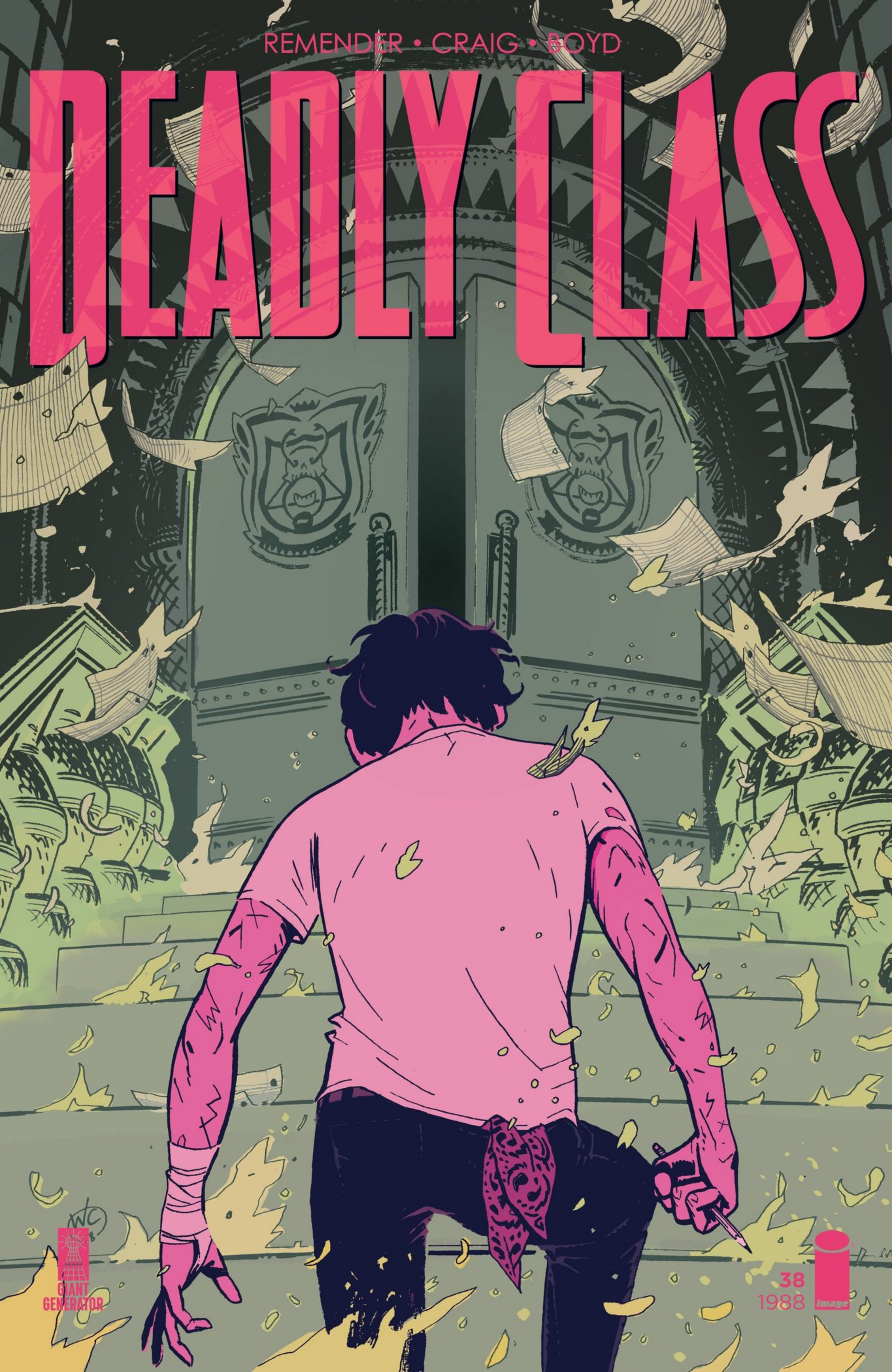


REMENDER • CRAIG • BOYD

DEADLY CLASS



The Story So Far...

When Marcus Lopez—homeless, orphaned, hopeless—joined Kings Dominion Atelier of the Deadly Arts, he expected trouble to be close behind. He was right.

But against all odds, Marcus acquired a small circle of friends. Almost all of them are dead now, as a result of the murderous frenzy of the Freshman Great Exam massacre as well as other, more personal vendettas. But he still has his girlfriend Maria, the deadly adopted daughter of the notorious Mexican drug lord she killed in order to avenge her true family. Together, Marcus and Maria hid out in Mexico, until the newest batch of Kings Dominion freshmen tracked them down and brought all their troubles screaming back...

RICK REMENDER • Writer
WES CRAIG • Artist
JORDAN BOYD • Colorist
RUS WOOTON • Letterer
BRIAH SKELLY • Editor
ERIKA SCHNATZ • Production

DEADLY CLASS created by
Rick Remender & Wes Craig

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IN THE
SUNSET OF APRIL 22,
1915, A GREEN FOG
DRIFTED THROUGH THE
TRENCHES NEAR YPRES,
BELGIUM, ASPHYXIATING
ILL-EQUIPPED
FRENCH TROOPS.

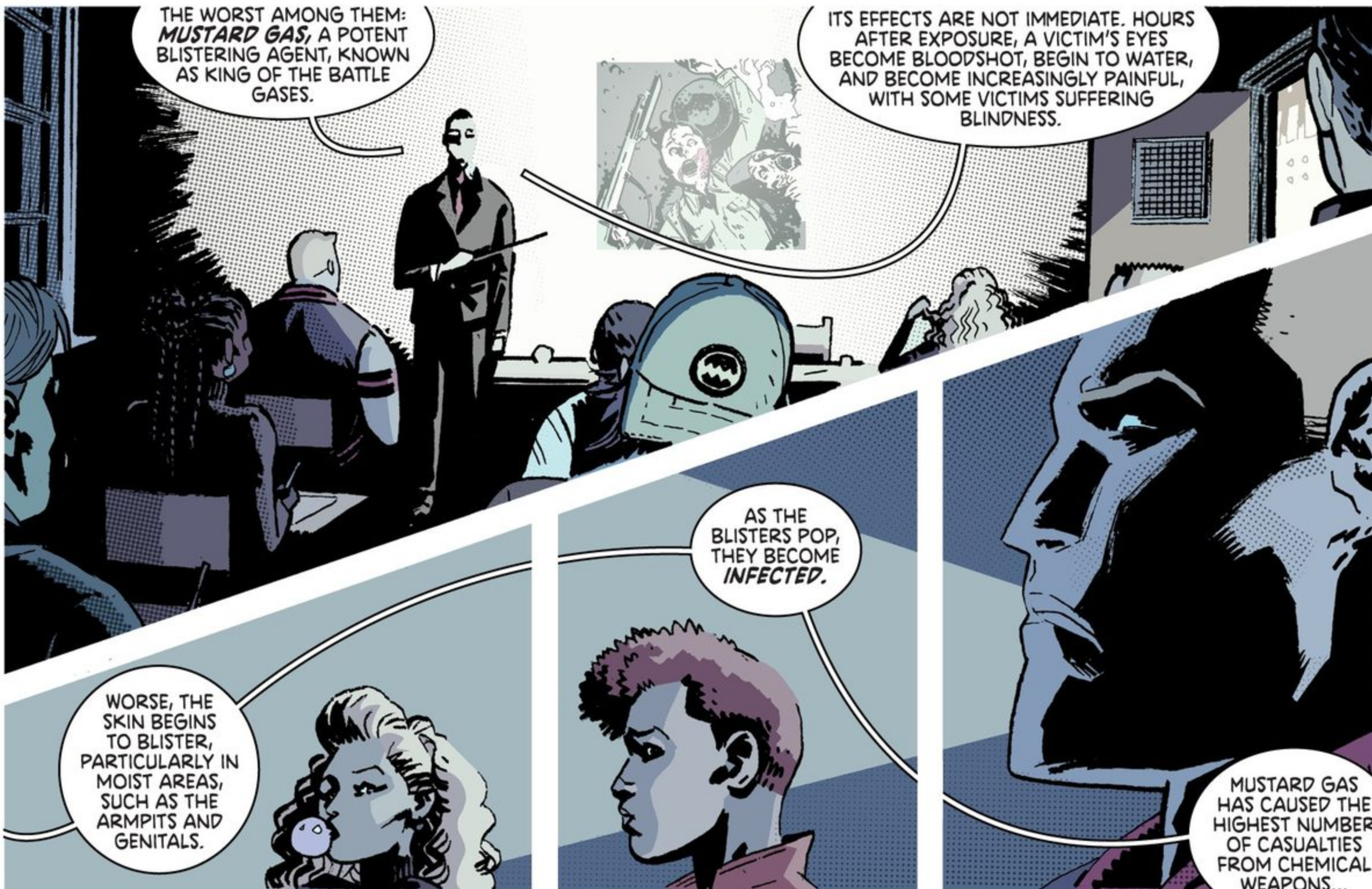
THE *FIRST*
LARGE-SCALE USE
OF CHEMICAL
WEAPONS IN
CONTEMPORARY
WARFARE.



FRITZ HABER
SUPERVISED ITS INITIAL
DEPLOYMENT ON THE
WESTERN FRONT AND
REMAINS THE PERSON
WE *MOST* IDENTIFY
WITH MILITARIZED
CHEMICAL WEAPONS
ATTACKS.

THE WORST AMONG THEM:
MUSTARD GAS, A POTENT
BLISTERING AGENT, KNOWN
AS KING OF THE BATTLE
GASES.

ITS EFFECTS ARE NOT IMMEDIATE. HOURS
AFTER EXPOSURE, A VICTIM'S EYES
BECOME BLOODSHOT, BEGIN TO WATER,
AND BECOME INCREASINGLY PAINFUL,
WITH SOME VICTIMS SUFFERING
BLINDNESS.



WORSE, THE
SKIN BEGINS
TO BLISTER,
PARTICULARLY IN
MOIST AREAS,
SUCH AS THE
ARMPITS AND
GENITALS.

AS THE
BLISTERS POP,
THEY BECOME
INFECTED.

MUSTARD GAS
HAS CAUSED THE
HIGHEST NUMBER
OF CASUALTIES
FROM CHEMICAL
WEAPONS...

...UPWARD
OF 120,000
BY SOME
ESTIMATES.

IT'S
KNOWN TO HAVE
A POTENT SMELL
OF GARLIC AND
GASOLINE--

SHIT,
I *KNOW*
THAT
SMELL!

TURNS
OUT I'VE HAD FRITZ
HABER SITTING IN FRONT
OF ME ALL SEMESTER
DROPPING GAS
ATTACKS!



YOU WANT
TO HEAR A
REAL FUNNY
JOKE,
NAVIN?!









LONG
TIME NO
SEE,
SHAB.

"I SIT BY THE DRINKING FOUNTAIN
ALONE AND WATCH THEM ALL PLAY.

"I DON'T KNOW HOW TO BE A PART OF IT."

THAT'S WHAT I TOLD MY
MOM AFTER SHE PICKED
ME UP FROM MY FIRST
DAY OF KINDERGARTEN.

EVEN THEN, I KNEW
THERE WAS SOMETHING
WRONG WITH ME...

...AND SO DID
THE OTHER KIDS.

LOOKIN'
GOOD,
BUDDY.



PEOPLE DON'T CHANGE.



I AM UNLOVABLE AND WEIRD.



SOMETHING ABOUT ME
THEY INSTINCTIVELY
HATE.



AND YEAR BY YEAR, THE WORLD JUST
KEPT REINFORCING THAT NOTION.



I DIDN'T INVITE THE CHAOS.

DIDN'T CHOOSE MUCH OF
ANYTHING, IN FACT.



LIFE'S BEEN A SERIES OF
REACTIONS TO AVOID THE
SHIT BEING THROWN AT ME.



AND NO
MATTER WHERE
I ENDED UP--

IT WASN'T
MY DECISION.



BUT THIS, COMING BACK HERE,
FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MY LIFE...



THIS ISN'T A REACTION.



THIS IS MY CHOICE.



LATER
THAN
EXPECTED.



YOUNG
PLANTS
CANNOT BE
FORCED TO
GROW BY
STRETCHING
THEM.

IT IS
ENOUGH
THAT YOU
TOOK THE
FORM IN
YOUR OWN
TIME.

THOUGH
LEAVES
EMERGE FROM
WHERE THEY
SHOULD NOT.



IT IS
DIFFICULT
TO DISMOUNT
FROM A
TIGER'S
BACK.



ATTEMPTING
TO BACK OUT
ONLY COMPOUNDS
THE RISKS YOU
TOOK TO MOUNT
IT IN THE FIRST
PLACE.



WHY
HAVE
YOU?



I DON'T UNDERSTAND, SIR?

I WILL NOT ASK A SECOND TIME.



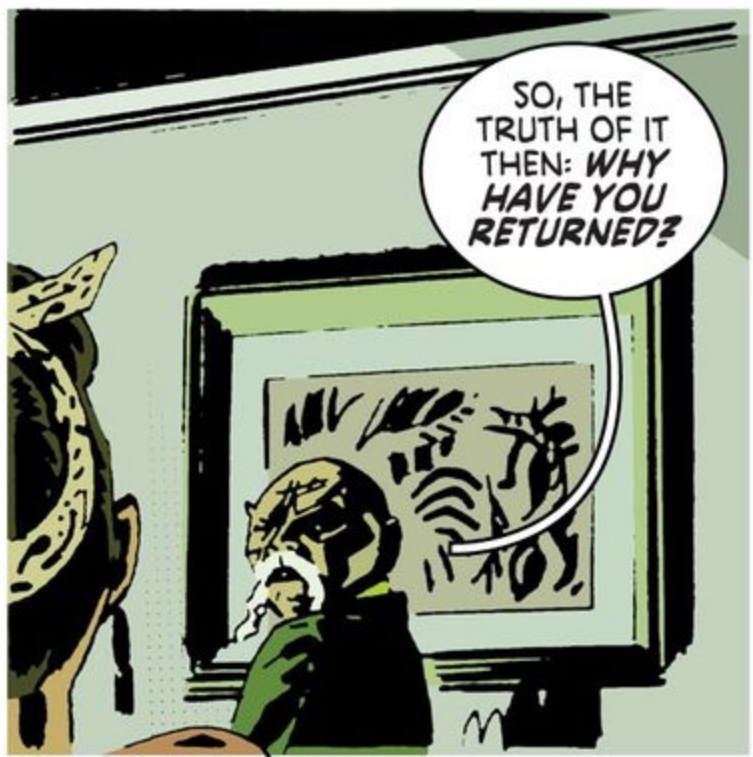
BEWARE ANYONE WHO TELLS YOU EXACTLY WHAT YOU WANT TO HEAR.



IF SOMEONE IS REINFORCING WHAT YOU ALREADY BELIEVE-- THEY'RE *PLAYING* YOU.



YOU WERE ALWAYS APT PUPILS.



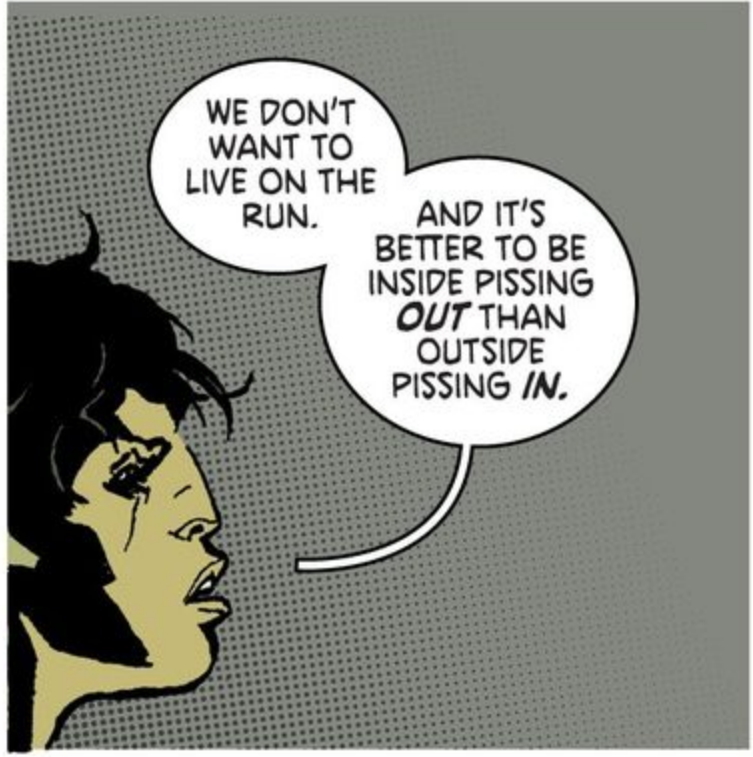
SO, THE TRUTH OF IT THEN: *WHY HAVE YOU RETURNED?*



TO FINISH OUR TRAINING.



TO WHAT END?



WE DON'T WANT TO LIVE ON THE RUN.

AND IT'S BETTER TO BE INSIDE PISSING *OUT* THAN OUTSIDE PISSING *IN*.

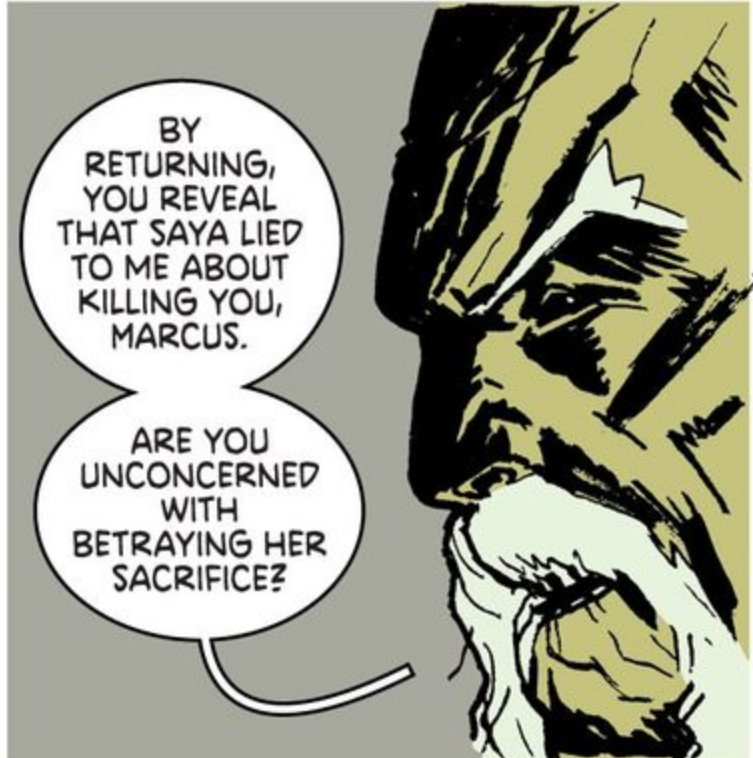


NO HEART FOR *REVENGE?*



I KILLED CHICO. BROKE YOUR RULES. SET ALL OF THE CHAOS IN MOTION.

YOU HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO HAND ME OVER TO DIABLO'S CARTEL.



BY RETURNING, YOU REVEAL THAT SAYA LIED TO ME ABOUT KILLING YOU, MARCUS.

ARE YOU UNCONCERNED WITH BETRAYING HER SACRIFICE?



SAYA LET MY FRIENDS DIE.

SHE SHOULD HAVE KNOWN I'D NEVER FORGIVE HER.



I KNEW WHEN I MADE YOU HER PLEDGE YOU WOULD BE HER *ULTIMATE* TEST.

IN THE SPIRIT OF OUR SHARED HONESTY... I DID *NOT* EXPECT HER TO FAIL.



YET, HER FEELINGS FOR YOU COST HER EVERYTHING...

SAYA IS DEAD.

BUT YOU KNEW THAT.



WHO KILLED LEX MILLER?

THE HOLY GHOST.

MASTER ZANE?

I... I DIDN'T KNOW HE WAS DEAD.



LIAR.

MARIA, THE SOTO VATO STRONGHOLD IN NEVADA... THAT WAS YOUR DOING?



WITH MARCUS' HELP. YES.



THEN THIS BELONGS TO YOU.



YOU ARE EL ALMA DEL DIABLO'S ADOPTED DAUGHTER, AND--- WITH THE REST OF HIS FAMILY DEAD--- THE NEXT IN LINE TO LEAD THE SOTO VATOS.

EVEN THOUGH I'M THE ONE WHO KILLED THEM ALL?

ESPECIALLY SO.



YOU RETURN TO ME AS EVERYTHING I KNEW YOU WOULD BECOME, MARIA.



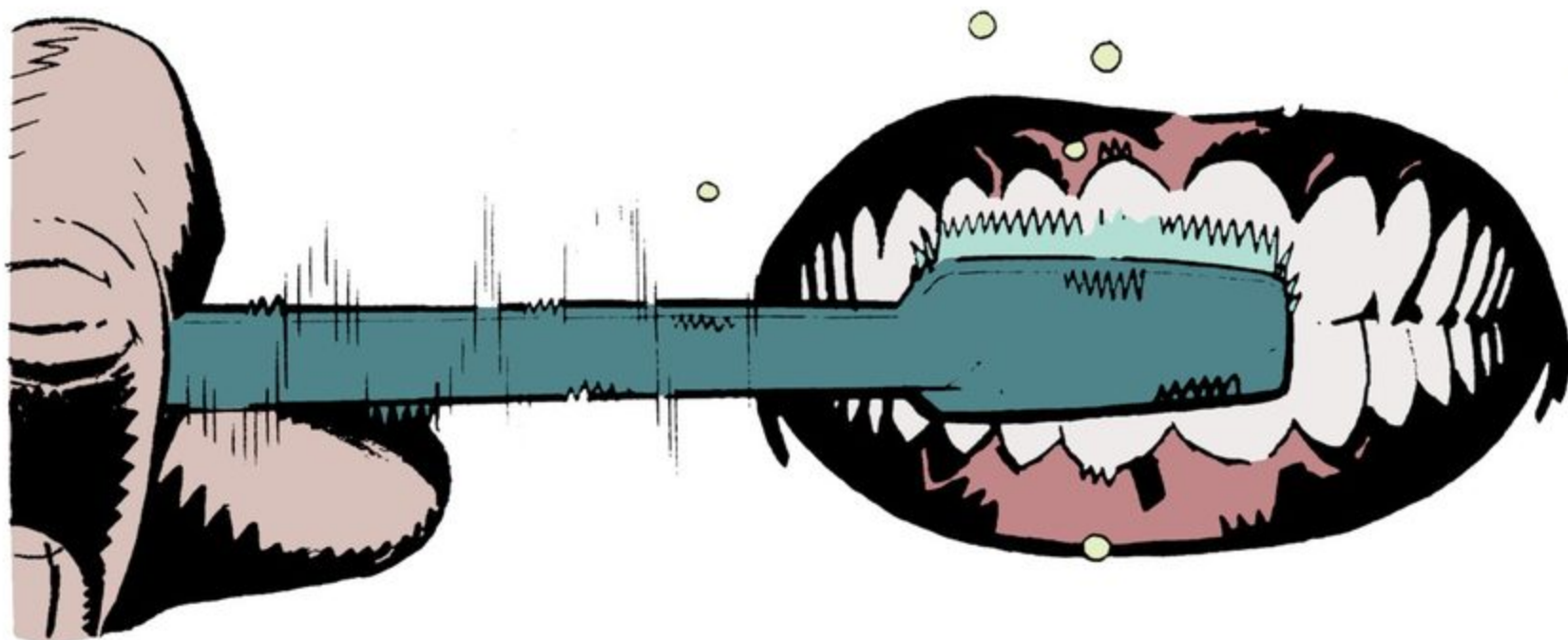
EVERYTHING I MISTOOK SAYA TO BE.











EVERYTHING IS **WRONG**.
OFF-BALANCE.

CAN YOU FEEL IT?

I **SHOULDN'T** BE HERE.
I **SHOULDN'T** BE ALIVE.

ENDED UP IN A STRANGE
ALTERNATE DIMENSION
WHERE EVERYTHING IS
ON THE **WRONG** AXIS.



THE AIR RADIATES
REJECTION.

THE SMELL OF THIS PLACE...
WET EARTH, MOLD, SAGE...
FORCED MEMORY FLASHES:

THE LAST NIGHT I SLEPT HERE.

HIGH ON METH.



STRESSED MUSCLES TENSE
UP INVOLUNTARILY.

FWO WAS GOING AFTER
WILLIE BECAUSE OF WHAT
I TOLD THEM.

SAYA WAS GOING TO **KILL**
ME FOR BETRAYING HIM.



I WAS GOING TO
KILL VIKTOR...



...MASTER ZANE GOT
IN THE CROSSFIRE.

THE ONE DEATH I NEVER
HAD TIME TO ABSORB.

DID THAT LIGHT THE FUSE?

EARN ME THE REST?



AFTER ZANE DIED, ONE
BY ONE, I LOST THE
PEOPLE I LOVED.

HAD A DREAM LAST NIGHT THAT I PUT HEROIN IN THE FANGS OF SNAKES AND LAY IN A BED WITH THEM.

I HELD THE BEDPOST TIGHT AS THEY BIT ME OVER AND OVER.

BILLY WAS HIDING IN THE CORNER. HE TOLD ME I HAD A VICTIM COMPLEX. THAT I FIXATED ON WHO HAD DONE WRONG BY ME INSTEAD OF WHO HAD DONE RIGHT.



HE TOLD ME TO SHED THAT SKIN OR I'D NEVER BE HAPPY.

I DON'T RECOGNIZE MYSELF ANYMORE.

MAYBE WILLIE WAS RIGHT.



NOTHING LIKE WHAT I IMAGINED.

THEY SMILE. THEY WAVE. THEY FLIRT.



AND SUDDENLY
I'M HOME.



EVERYTHING
OKAY? VATOS
WILL PROTECT
US?



CHICO'S UNCLE RUNS SOTO
VATOS NOW, HE'S GRATEFUL
TO ME FOR CLEARING HIS
WAY. **THEY** SAY WE WON'T
NEED PROTECTION.



BUT
THEY
WILL.

ZENZELE WAS
SAYA'S PLEDGE,
AND SINCE OUR
RETURN, SAYA'S
NAME IS MUD.

WORD IS
BRANDY'S
DIXIE MOB IS
GUNNING
FOR HER...



HOLD
UP!

WE NEED
TO TALK,
LISTEN, I
THINK YOU'RE
IN--



FUCK
OFF.



WHATEVER
YOUR DEAL
IS--



WE DON'T
WANT
ANY PART
OF IT.



IT IS
BETTER
IF YOU STAY
AWAY FROM
US.



OKAY. TO BE EXPECTED AFTER THE WAY WE LEFT THE RESERVATION.

NOTHING I CAN DO ABOUT IT RIGHT NOW.

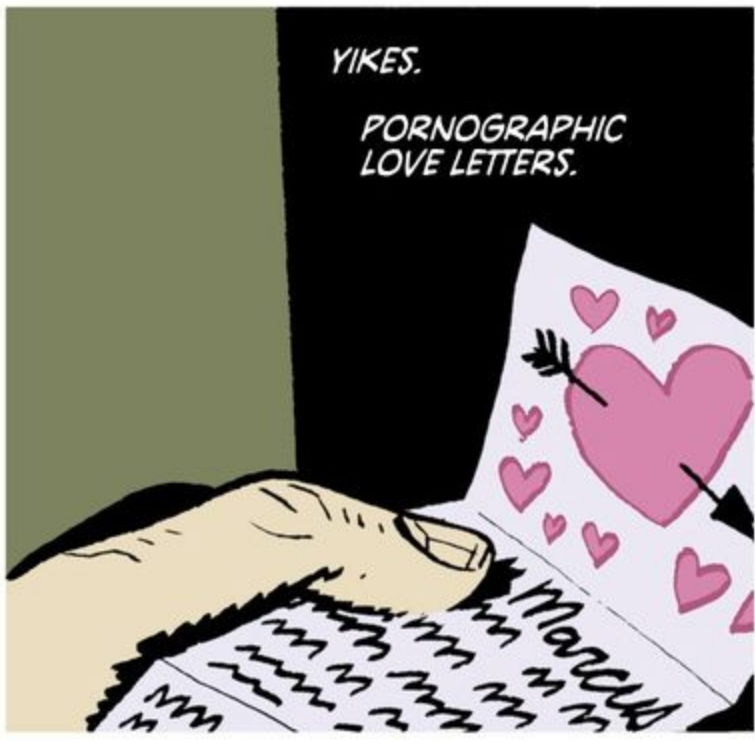
STILL, MY COMING BACK WILL FORCE BRANDY'S
HAND. WHATEVER SHE HAS PLANNED...



IT'S COMING SOON.

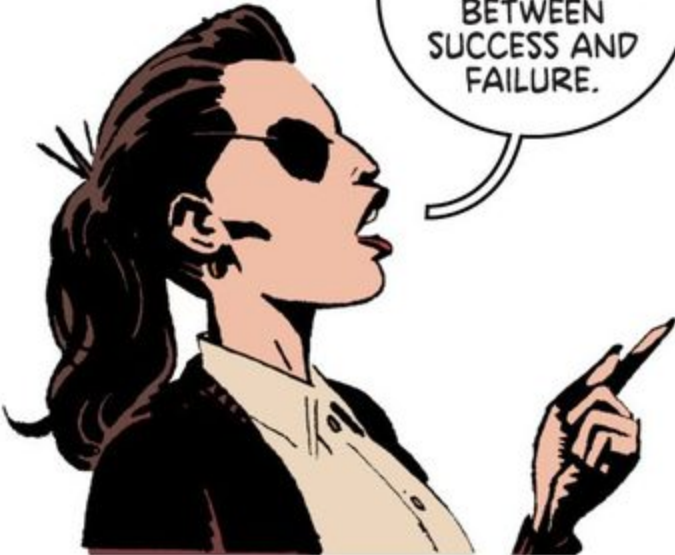
WHAT
THE
SHIT?





I SCURRY BACK INTO THIS FAMILIAR HOLE LIKE A RAT OUT OF A TRAP.

CRITICAL STRIKING IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN SUCCESS AND FAILURE.



BUT I'M NOT A RAT.

NOT ANYMORE.

THE MAN SAID SO.

PRECISE IMPACT TO THE SCAPULA WILL...

WELCOME BACK, DUDE. LITTLE HERBAGE?



AND WHAT THE MAN SAYS IS LAW.

KINGS DOMINION IS THE PATRIARCHY COME TO LIFE.

ITS WALLS PUSH IN, MOLDING KIDS INTO PREDICTABLE FORMS, BREEDING OBEDIENT STEREOTYPES--



A SLOW DRIP OF INTRAVENOUS IMMORALITY.

HMM!

AN INSANE VISION OF THE WORLD THAT GOES BACK AS FAR AS ANYONE CAN SEE.



WHICH IS HOW THEY LET YOU KNOW IT'S NOT WORTH FIGHTING.

SLAM



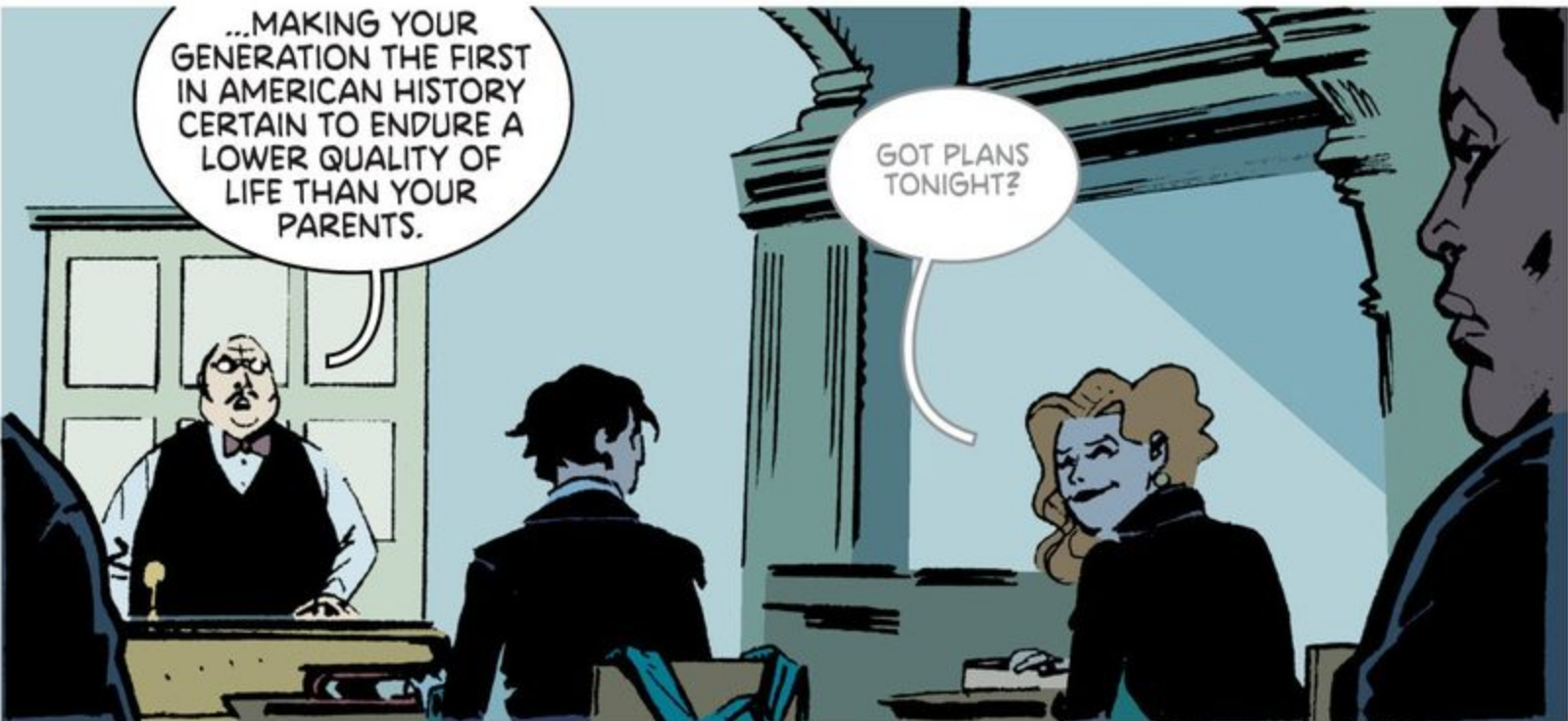
ANOTHER GENERATION COERCED BY TRADITION.

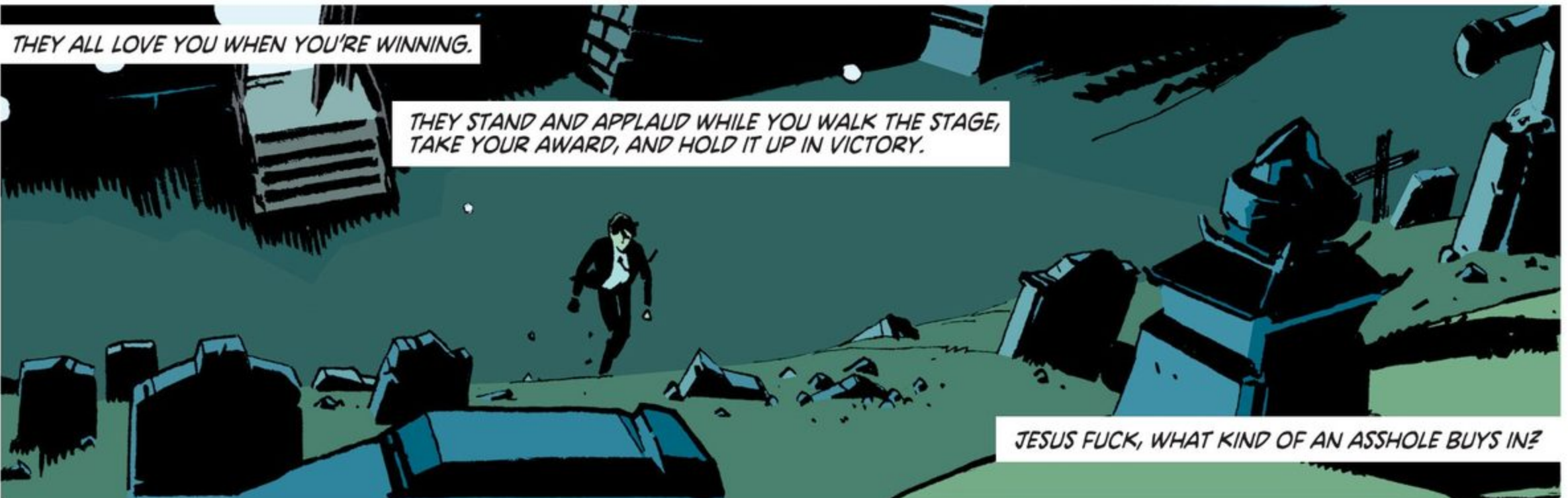
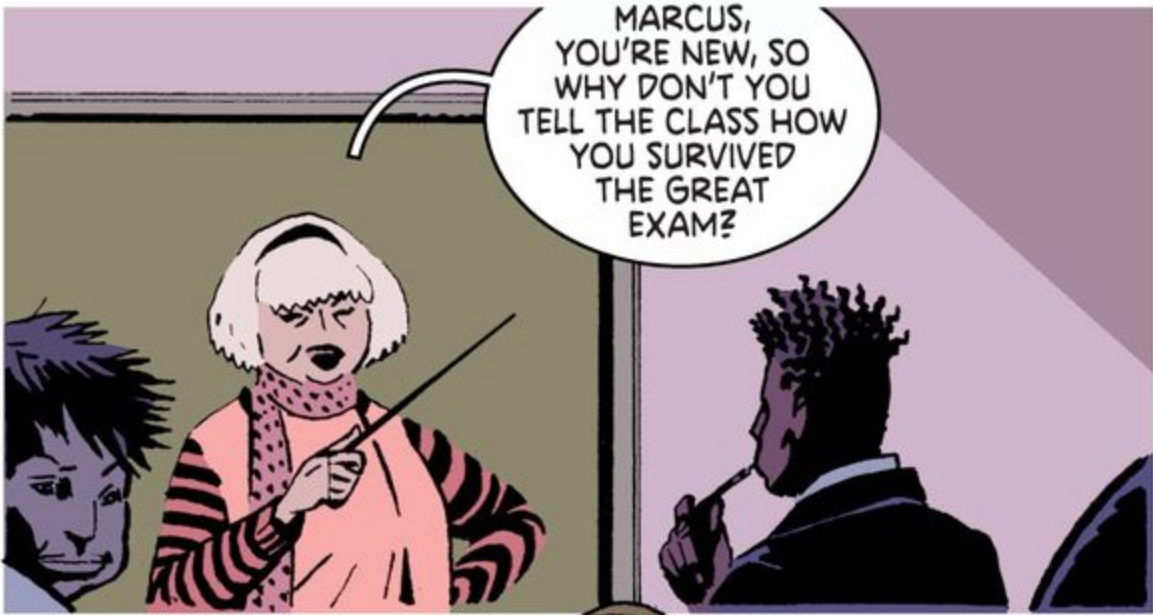
WITHIN TWENTY YEARS, THIS WEALTH INEQUALITY WILL CONTINUE EXPONENTIALLY...



...MAKING YOUR GENERATION THE FIRST IN AMERICAN HISTORY CERTAIN TO ENDURE A LOWER QUALITY OF LIFE THAN YOUR PARENTS.

GOT PLANS TONIGHT?







WHAT KIND OF NEEDY
PUDDLE CAN'T SEE IT
FOR THE HOLLOW
PAGEANTRY IT IS?



IF YOU NEED THAT
CORROSIVE APPLAUSE...



...WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU SLIDE
BACK DOWN TO WHERE YOU STARTED?

JAZZ
CIGARETTE?



MIGHT
EASE THE
PAIN YOU'RE
BRINGING ON
YOURSELF.

WHY THE
FUCK COME
BACK HERE, YOU
SENSELESS
BLOODY
PONCE?

HE'S
A GOTH AT
HEART. FEEDS
ON THE
DRAMA.

IT'S GOOD
TO SEE YOU,
DUDE, BUT
PLEASE DO US
A FAVOR...



RUN.



YOU KNOW
I CAN'T
DO THAT,
BILLY.

BUT I
PROMISE,
YOU'LL LOVE
WHAT I HAVE
PLANNED.

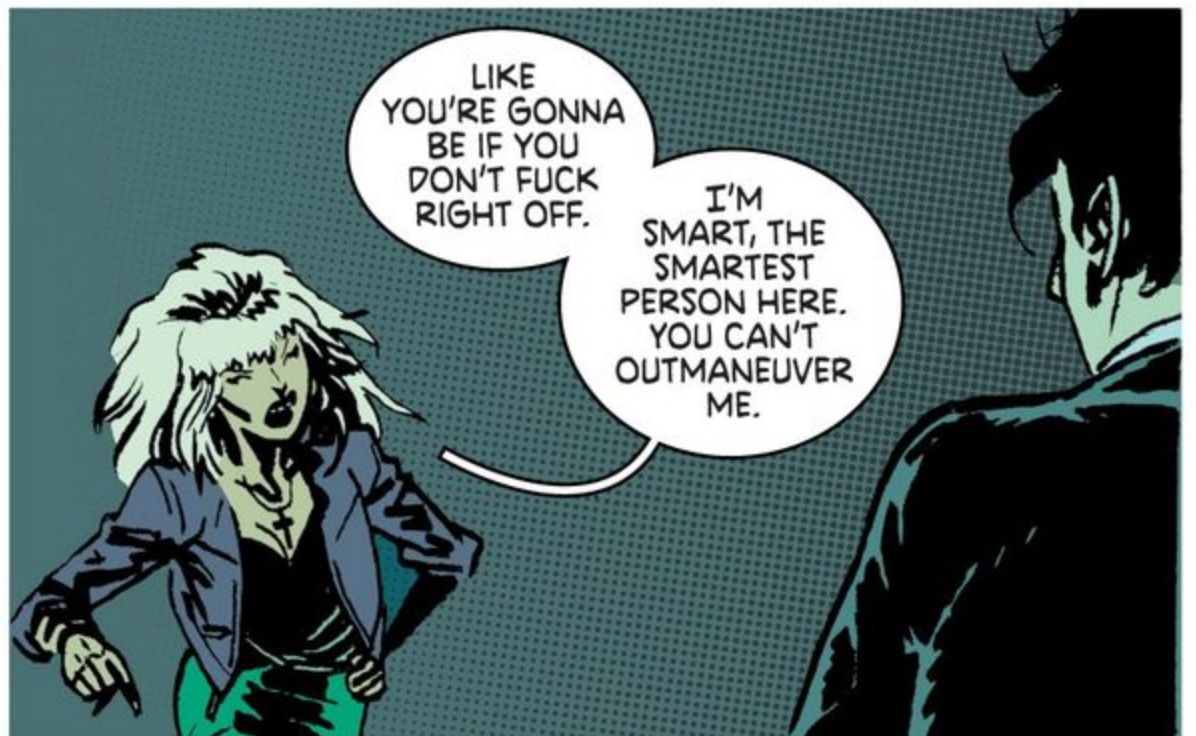


TELL YOU
WHAT I
DON'T
LOVE...

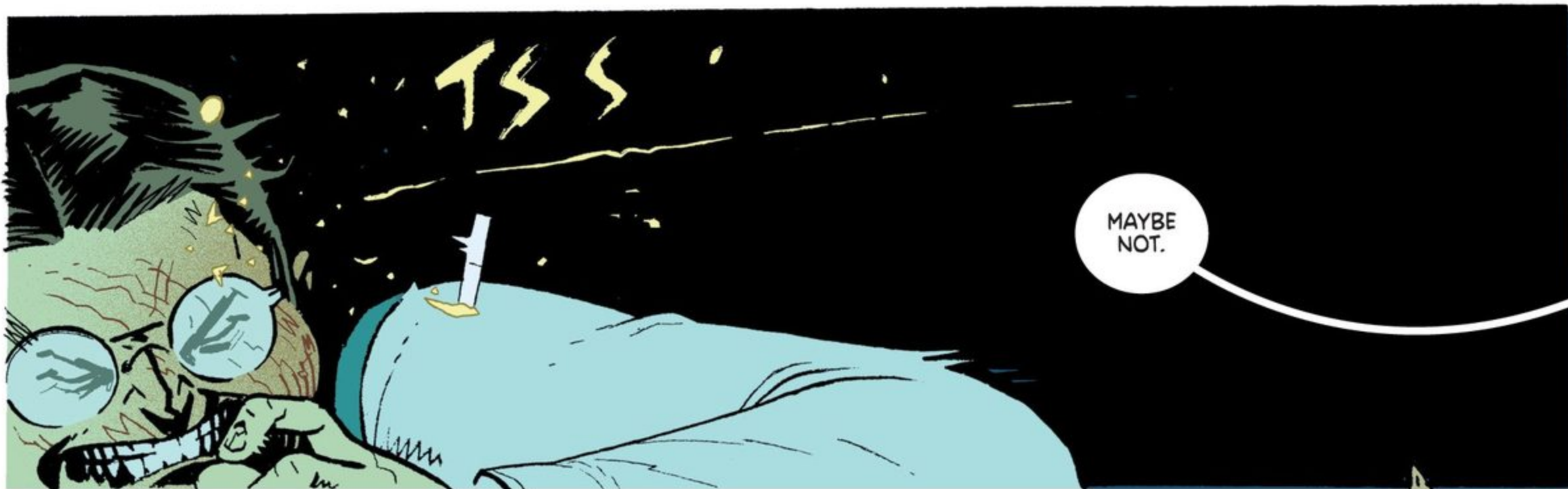


...MY
BOYFRIEND
TALKING TO
HIMSELF IN A
GRAVE-
YARD.

YOU
SHOULDN'T
BE HERE.







DEAD LETTER OFFICE

Send comments and questions to
WriteRemender@gmail.com!
Mark letters "OK to print".

And with that, our heroes—our broken, jagged, jaded heroes—are back in the halls of the deadliest high school on Earth. They've been gone quite a while. What fresh hells await them? What new manifestations of festering decay and gruesome rot will they discover? Stay tuned to find out!

Greetings, lovely readers. Compulsive devourers of each and every word upon these beautiful and often gore-soaked pages might have noticed a new name in the credits. And it just so happens to be mine! I'm Briah, the new Editor for DEADLY CLASS, and for the entire line of Giant Generator books at Image Comics, too. Rick asked me to answer some letters today so you can all get to know me a wee bit. And even though I'm more of a behind-the-scenes kind of gal, I jumped at the chance because this community of fans is a shining beacon of kick-assedness and goodness. It's a pleasure and an honor to be here, and I'm utterly delighted to make your acquaintance.

But enough about me! This section is supposed to be about you, so let's get to your letters.

Hey Rick,
Ever since reading TOKYO GHOST a few years back, I've been hooked on your work. Every month, I look forward to reading the newest issue of DEADLY CLASS and get super stoked when the trades come out so I can relive each volume all over again. I thought I couldn't look forward to the next installment of a story more than when finishing an issue of DEADLY CLASS. I was wrong.

After watching the first five episodes of DEADLY CLASS [on SYFY], I am even more excited for the next episode to air than I have been waiting for the next issue of the comic (which I am still delighted for each month). Even though I already have an idea of where the next episodes are going, I still can't wait to watch the next.

Also, I can't believe how well this show was cast. You know when you read a comic, and you have a voice for each character in your head when you read their dialogue? Well, this cast is it. Every word spoken is exactly how I thought/wanted the show to sound (some comic-to-TV-shows have one or two characters that sound/act like I pictured when reading; this show has everyone).

This show is a work of art. It feels like you all just took the art Wes drew and the words you wrote and made them come alive in motion and with sound! Any news on season two? I so badly want to see a few key pages play out on screen (the acid trip to Vegas in this past episode blew my mind).

Lastly, after seeing your work played out on the TV screen, has your approach to writing the comic changed in any way?

Thanks,
Billy Mizrahi

It really is magic, isn't it? Going from page to screen is no easy task, so it's a good thing the whole team rules. It's been a major priority of Rick's that the show remain true to this comic we all love, and I know he's glad to hear that it shows.

You can rest assured that the moment there's any news about a second season, we'll be shouting it from rooftops, social media, and anywhere else we can shout. So keep your eyes and ears peeled!

I asked Rick about his TV-and-comic writing process, and he says the major difference in writing for TV/film/video games etc. is making sure the dialogue works when read aloud. He often does table reads and private ones of the scripts to make sure everything flows when read aloud. Plot work remains the same, you just have to find more cliffhangers—for each act, as opposed to one for the end of a comic, but that's pretty similar. Also, training your brain to think in terms of moving pictures with sound as opposed to static images takes a bit of adjusting.

So there you have it. Also, a quick aside: how awesome is TOKYO GHOST? Seriously. If you haven't checked it out yet, do yourself a favor and pick up the deluxe hardcover edition. You'll be glad you did.

Dear Rick, Wes, and Everyone Involved with DEADLY CLASS,

I was there at the very first pitch meeting with SONY in the summer of 2015. I was the intern. I remember reading the issues at my desk the days before you came in for the meeting, and getting more and more excited with each one!

Getting to meet you and hear the pitch was so freaking cool. Four years later I am still reading those first issues, and an even bigger fan.



ART BY MINDY LEE
INSTAGRAM @MINDYLEEDOODLES



I started working at SONY again in November, and heard the show was finally being aired! Man how time flies.

I just picked up issue #37 on its release day at a comic store near the studio, it brought back a ton of good memories.

Congratulations on everything, and thank you all!

Luke Johnson
Los Angeles, CA

Hot dang, Luke—you've been there since the beginning! That has to be surreal as all get-out. I've got a similar vibe going myself, having been a fan of DEADLY CLASS long before I started editing the series. We are awfully lucky little ducklings to be able to work on the things we love!

Dear Remender, Wes, Jordan, Rus, and Sebastian,

I know I'm SUPER late to this scene. But I couldn't just let this message not reach you. I never really read comics. I wouldn't say we had no comics where I lived. We had comics, but none of it really stood out. For me. Not even Marvel and DC were famous in my town.

And now, in the age of the internet and Netflix is when I discovered this magic. I regret not stumbling upon your comics at least a year ago. I regret never turning one of those pages. And let me just say, I'M OBSESSED. You guys' art is amazing. The story is amazing. Thank you for creating this beautiful world for us to enjoy. Thank you. Really...

I'm proud to say that the first comic I ever read was DEADLY CLASS, and it is definitely my favourite.

Anagha

Late is SO MUCH better than never, Anagha. I'm so glad you're with us on this trip. You've chosen well.

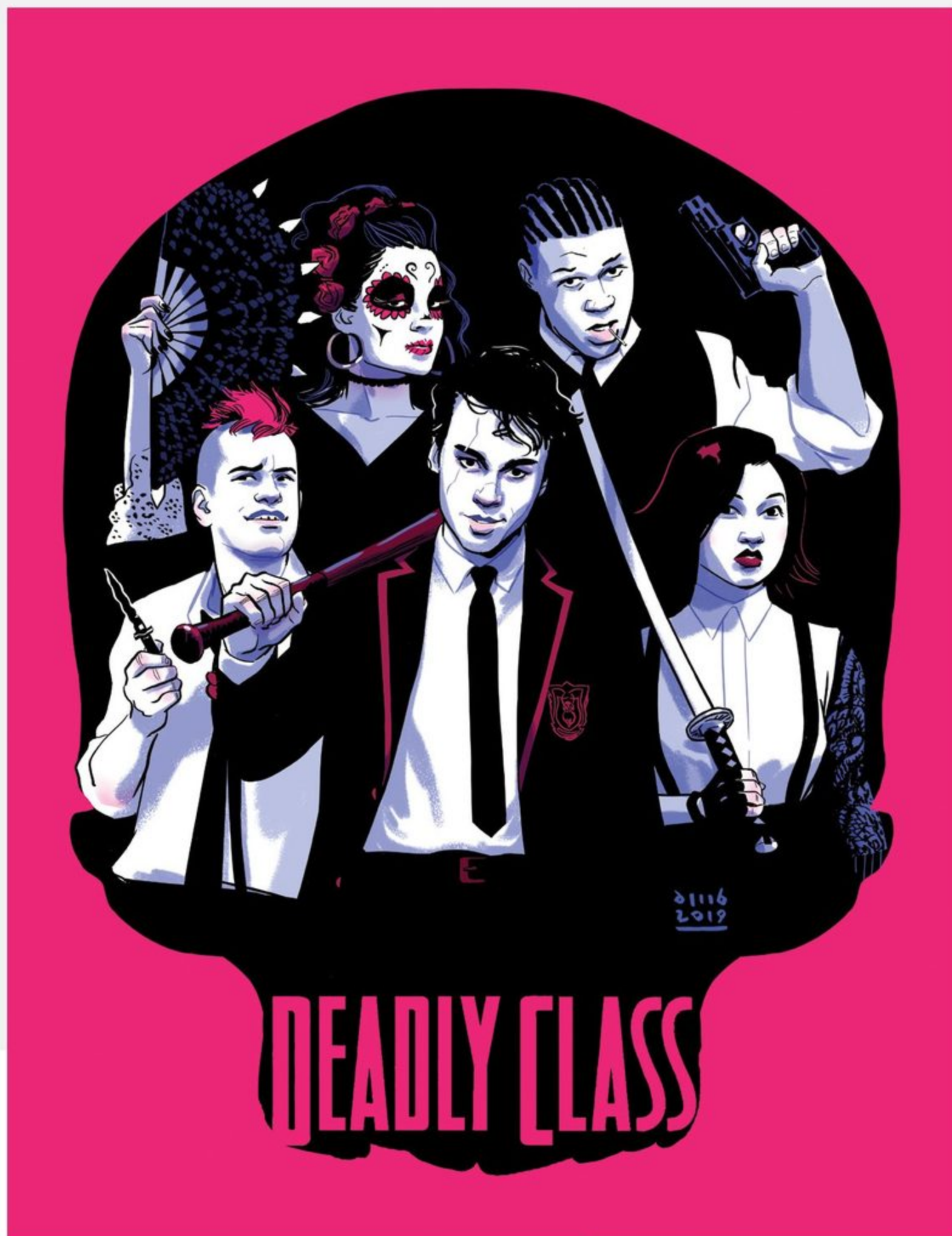
That'll do it for this month! Keep sending in your letters, everyone, and make sure to mark them as "OK to print" if you want to see them in the flesh—or ink, rather!—in the Dead Letter Office. And definitely stick around for the absolutely *bonkers* fan art we collected from you this month!

Briah

THE DEADLY ARTS

We welcome your fanart! Send them with
the email marked "OK TO PRINT" to:
WriteRemender@gmail.com.

ART BY DAVID M. BUISAN
INSTAGRAM @DAVIDMBUISAN



ART BY RORY HENSLEY





ART BY CARLA WYZGALA
 INSTAGRAM @CARLAWYZGALA
 CARLATIONS.COM



ART BY ELSA CHARRETIER
 INSTAGRAM @ELSACHARRETIER
 TWITTER @E_CHARRETIER

AVAILABLE NOW FROM GIANT GENERATOR



BLACK SCIENCE PREMIERE, VOL. 1 & 2 DELUXE OVERSIZED HARDCOVERS

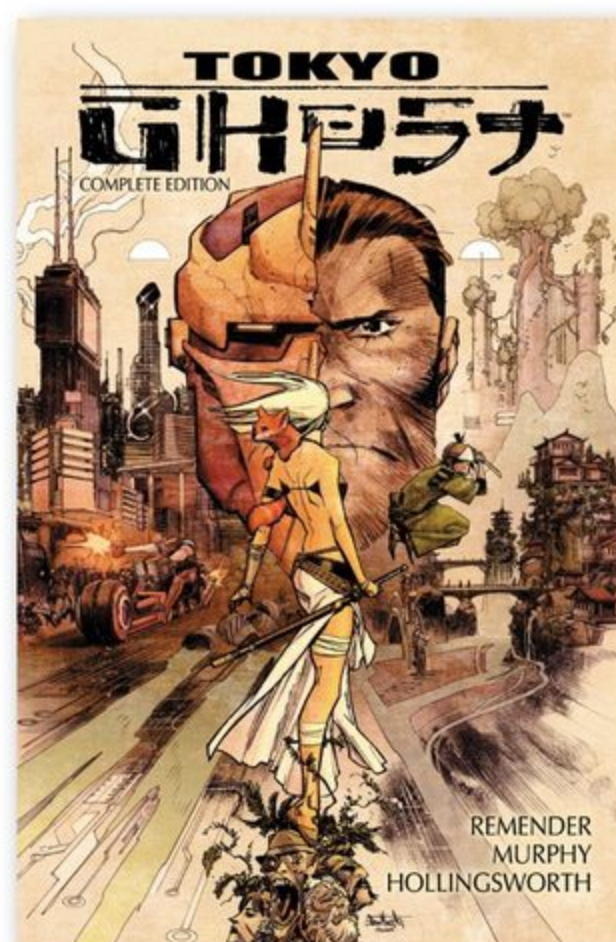
Anarchist scientist Grant McKay has done the impossible! Using the Pillar, he has punched a hole through the barriers between dimensions, allowing travel to all possible universes. But now Grant and his team are trapped in the folds of infinity, the Pillar sending them careening through a million universes of unimaginable adventure, sanity-flaying danger and no way home...

Vol. 1 collects BLACK SCIENCE #1-16

Vol. 2 collects BLACK SCIENCE #17-30

The Isles of Los Angeles 2089: Humanity is addicted to technology. Getting a virtual buzz is the only thing left to live for, and gangsters run it all. And who do these gangsters turn to when they need their rule enforced? Constables Led Dent and Debbie Decay are about to be given a job that will force them out of the familiar squalor of LA and into the last tech-less country on Earth: The Garden Nation of Tokyo. Presenting the full run of the smash hit TOKYO GHOST by RICK REMENDER & SEAN GORDON MURPHY in this oversized hardcover, packed with extra content, variants, designs, sketches, and bonus materials!

Collects TOKYO GHOST #1-10



DEATH OR GLORY VOL. 1 TRADE PAPERBACK

Meet Glory: a young woman raised off the grid in a convoy of truckers, the last men and women fighting for true freedom on the American open road. Now, in order to pay for her dying father's surgery, Glory has three days to pull off four dangerous cross-country heists with mob killers, crooked cops, and a psycho ex-husband all out to bring her in—or die trying. New York Times bestselling author RICK REMENDER teams up with legendary French superstar BENGAL to bring you a high-speed chase across the American West that examines our dwindling freedoms, and the price of fighting for an untethered life.

Collects DEATH OR GLORY #1-5

SEVEN TO ETERNITY, VOL. 1-3 TRADE PAPERBACKS

The God of Whispers has spread an omnipresent paranoia to every corner of the kingdom of Zhal; his spies hide in every hall spreading mistrust and fear. Adam Osidis, a dying knight from a disgraced house, must choose between joining a hopeless band of magic users in their desperate bid to free their world of the evil God, or accepting his promise to give Adam everything his heart desires.

Vol. 1 collects SEVEN TO ETERNITY #1-4

Vol. 2 collects SEVEN TO ETERNITY #5-9

Vol. 3 collects SEVEN TO ETERNITY #10-13



NEXT ISSUE

REMENDER • CRAIG • BOYD

DEADLY CLASS

